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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/581,109	07/28/2000	ARND WENDLAND	10191/1401	9774

26646 7590 01/18/2002

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EXAMINER

CONTEE, JOY KIMBERLY

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2681

DATE MAILED: 01/18/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.
09/581,109

Applicant(s)
Wendland

Examiner
Joy K. Contee

Art Unit
2681



-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Jul 19, 2001

2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.

3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 35 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) ☒ Claim(s) 8-14 is/are pending in the applica

4a) Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from considera

5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) ☒ Claim(s) 8-14 is/are rejected.

7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) ☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirem

Application Papers

9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved.

12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

13) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of:

- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
- ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

15) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

18) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____

16) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

19) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

17) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____

20) ☐ Other:

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DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. Applicant's request for consideration of an amendment after final rejection under 37 C.F.R. S1.116 is persuasive and, therefore, the finality of the last office action is withdrawn and new detailed action is as follows.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments with respect to claim 8-14 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

The Abe et al. reference (U.S. Patent No. 5,895,903) is added to specifically show the teaching of providing acoustic operating instructions. Further, motivation for combining Abe's teaching with the Kung (U.S. Patent No. 5,182,553), previously used, is clearly stated in Abe, which is to assist visually impaired persons (see col. 1, lines 50-54).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

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4. Claims 8-14 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kung U.S. Patent No. 5,182, 553, previously cited, in view of Abe et al. ("Abe"), U.S. Patent No. 5,895,903.

Regarding claim 8, Kung discloses a broadcast radio receiver set, comprising:

a memory for storing operating instructions that are capable of being retrieved, through input selection, in any desired sections (col. 2, lines 19-49).

Kung does not explicitly disclose operating instructions, that are able to be acoustically displayed via an output device.

However, in a similar field of endeavor, Abe is evidence of operating instructions, that are able to be acoustically displayed via an output device (col. 6, lines 17-34).

At the time of the invention it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to have modified Kung to include audible operating instructions for the purpose of providing the user with an additional option other than to display the instructions due to a visual handicap or the like, as suggested in Abe (col. 1, lines 50-54).

Regarding claim 9, which is dependent on claim 8, Kung further discloses the radio receiver set, wherein:

a portion of the operating instructions is retrievable in response to an application of an operating voltage (actuating the "FUNCTION" key) (col. 6, lines 29-57).

Regarding claim 10, which is dependent on claim 8, Kung further discloses the radio receiver set, wherein: the memory corresponds to a non-volatile memory (col. 2, lines 19-59 and col. 3, lines 52-64).

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Regarding claim 11, which is dependent on claim 8, Kung further discloses the radio receiver, further comprising:

a transmission devise for receiving one of the operating instructions and at least sections of the operation instructions from a central device (terminal apparatus (20)) (col. 7, lines 25-49).

Regarding claim 12, which is dependent on claim 11, Kung further discloses the radio receiver set, further comprising:

an operational control element for retrieving and outputting one of the sections of the operating instructions, the one of the sections of the operating instructions being adapted to a specific operating state of the receiver ("HELP" key) (col. 5, lines 1 to col. 6, lines 55, see Fig. 2A).

Regarding claim 13, which is dependent on claim 12, Kung further discloses the radio receiver set, wherein:

the operation control element permits a repeated actuation in order to output other sections of the operation instructions (selection of the "HELP" key permits the user to view instructions on a number of different receiver functions) (col. Fig. 2A, col. 5, lines 1 to col. 6, line 55).

Regarding claim 14, which is dependent on claim 13, Kung further discloses the radio receiver set, further comprising:

a further operation control element, wherein:

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the operation control element and the further operation control element enable a section of the operating instructions pertaining to the further operational control element to be output by actuating the operational control element and by actuating the further operating control element (in response to actuating the "HELP" key, and then the "LOCK" key, information typical of the "LOCK" function is displayed) (see Fig. 2A, col. 5, lines 1 to col. 6, line 55).

Thus it would have been obvious from Kung, in view of Abe, to obtain the invention as described in the claims.

Conclusion

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Eichstadt, U.S. Patent No. 6,060,979, discloses a call box apparatus.

Crevits, U.S. Patent No. 5,509,059, discloses a method for the establishment in a communication system of a connection.

Takahashi, U.S. Patent No. 4,682,368, discloses a mobile radio data communication system using a speech recognition technique.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Joy K. Contee whose telephone number is (703) 308-0149, M-F 5:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

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If the examiner can not be reached, the examiner's supervisor Dwayne Bost can be reached on (703)305-4778.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Customer Service Office whose telephone number is (703)306-0377

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to:

(703) 872-9314, (for formal communications intended for entry or informal or draft communications, please label "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT")

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to

Crystal Park II


Sixth Floor (Receptionist)

2121 Crystal Drive

Arlington, VA


Joy K. Contee

January 4, 2002


TRACY LEGBEE
PRIMARY EXAMINER